

## Message Text

SECRET

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70

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 251801Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9667

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

S E C R E T BONN 06770

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECDEF, USNMR SHAPE AND  
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, MBFR, GW

SUBJECT: OPTION III: INITIAL FRG REACTIONS TO U.S.

MBFR PAPER

REF: STATE 87907

1. IN A DISCUSSION WITH RUTH ON APRIL 24, HE PROVIDED  
INITIAL REACTIONS TO THE U.S. VIEWS PAPER ON  
MBFR. HE SAID HE HOPED TO BE ABLE TO PRESENT THE U.S.  
WITH MORE DETAILED COMMENTS BY APRIL 30, BUT COULD NOT  
PROMISE ANYTHING DEFINITIVE SINCE HIS FMOD COUNTERPARTS  
ARE PRESENTLY UNAVAILABLE.

2. RUTH SAID THE MAIN PRICE TO BE EXTRACTED FOR TABLING  
OPTION III SHOULD BE EASTERN AGREEMENT TO THE CONCEPT  
OF THE COMMON CEILING. RUTH INDICATED FURTHER THE  
WESTERN SIDE SHOULD AVOID ANY LIMITATION ON EUROPEAN  
EQUIPMENT. THE FRG WOULD WANT TO LIMIT ANY EUROPEAN  
COMMITMENT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF OPTION III TO A NON-  
INCREASE OF PERSONNEL. RUTH EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT

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OPTION III SHOULD BE A "ONE-SHOT OPERATION" LIMITED TO

AMERICAN AND SOVIET SYSTEMS.

3. RUTH REFERRED TO ONE DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND FRG POSITIONS CONCERNING THE TIMING OF AN ALLIED DECISION ON EUROPEAN ARMAMENT CONSTRAINTS. WE BELIEVE HE WAS REFERRING TO THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE ON PAGE 13 OF REFTEL WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS: "BUT WE BELIEVE THAT THERE IS NO NEED FOR ALLIED DECISION ON THIS MATTER UNTIL AFTER EASTERN REACTIONS TO OPTION III ARE ASSESSED." RUTH SAID THAT WHEREAS THE U.S. BELIEVES SUCH A DECISION CAN BE DEFERRED UNTIL LATER, THE FRG WOULD RATHER REACH AN AGREED NATO POSITION BEFORE BROACHING THE NUCLEAR ISSUE WITH THE EAST. RUTH SAID THE FRG WANTS TO KNOW CLEARLY WHAT LIES AHEAD BEFORE STARTING DOWN THIS ROAD.  
HILLENBRAND

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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